

RECOGNIZING KACIE CORNETT ON BEING NAMED THE 2021 YOUTH FEMALE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR BY THE LAPEER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 5, 2021

Mrs. McCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize to Kacie Cornett on being named the 2021 Youth Female Citizen of the Year by the Lapeer Area Chamber of Commerce. Kacie has logged 150 hours of volunteer work already in this school year despite COVID restrictions. She is a volunteer at the Paradise Animal Rescue, works with middle school girls through the "Grow to Glow" program, participated in charity runs, and is a member of the National Honor Society, Key Club, Art Club, Photography Club, and the Drama Club. Through all this she has been able to maintain a 4.16 GP/A, ranking her 9th in her class. I thank Kacie for her tireless dedication and selfless service to the Lapeer Community.

RECOGNIZING JOE CULBERTSON

HON. YVETTE HERRELL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 5, 2021

Ms. HERRELL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge this year's winner of the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association's Ayudando Siempre Ali award, Joe Culbertson. Joe is a veteran of the United States Army and a great New Mexican who has worked tirelessly to better his community his entire life.

No stranger to representing the community around him, Joe has served as President and Vice President of the Northeastern New Mexico Livestock Association where he fought on behalf of the livestock industry. Additionally, he has served on the State Advisory Land Committee, the New Mexico Cattle Growers Water Committee, the Natural Resource Committee, and the county predator control board. Additionally, Joe has been a county representative on the Eastern Plains Council of Government, where he fought for rural issues.

Joe's service to his community spans over four decades. He helped start the local fire department in Rosebud in 1980 and has served both on the board of directors and as Assistant Fire Chief. He even helps on the ground as an EMT-basic and ambulance driver.

Currently serving as president of W.O. Culbertson & Sons, Inc., a family ranching business with roots dating back all the way to 1915, Joe knows the importance and impact that agriculture has on the community. He is an avid supporter of Future Farmers of America (FFA) so future generations can continue to contribute to their communities.

For his clear display of an attitude of service before self, I congratulate Joe on earning this well-deserved award.

HONORING STEPHEN GALE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 5, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Stephen Gale upon his retirement as Senior District Representative in my Santa Rosa office, and to recognize his longtime commitment to his community in Sonoma County.

Stephen knows the meaning of hard work. From picking apricots in his teens to earning the title of youngest Section Head at Hughes Aircraft Company, Stephen has been known as a humble, yet driven man. Not content with this early success, he returned to school, earning a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Southern California. Embarking on his second career, he found success as Director of Strategic Investments at Fair Isaac and founder of Wellspring Business Development.

Stephen has always had a passion for public service. Before joining my staff, he served as the Board of Public Utilities Chair for Santa Rosa, where he directed water distribution and spearheaded projects to develop renewable resources. He has also served as Business Representative to the County Commission that established the Sonoma-Marin Area Regional Transportation system and as the founding Chair of the North Bay Leadership Council. On top of his official duties, he found time to organize a week-long business simulation to teach entrepreneurial skills to high school students. For this, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors awarded him a Gold Resolution in recognition of his leadership.

Stephen's motivation to better our community led him to developing a passion for politics. In 2008, he was chosen to serve as Chair of the Sonoma County Democratic Party and revitalized the organization. His innate ability to bring together people of all political leanings, from progressives to moderates, helped him build a powerful Democratic coalition that secured Democratic victories and drove civic engagement. After the conclusion of his second term as chair, he joined the state party's Rules committee, where he used his expert knowledge of parliamentary procedures to ensure efficient and productive party activities.

For seven years, Stephen has served our district well as the Senior District Representative in my Santa Rosa district office. As my countywide liaison for Sonoma County, he has worked to advance the interests of many important facets of the county, including agricultural producers and labor. Additionally, he has helped to lead the community through many trials and tribulations, including the 2017 Tubbs fire and the Coronavirus pandemic. Notably, he was instrumental in advocating, both on the local and federal level, for the creation of the Veterans Village, which provided 14 homes for homeless veterans in Santa Rosa.

Madam Speaker, Stephen Gale has made our community proud everyday through his passion and commitment to Sonoma County. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARGIE AILEEN LITTLE RIGBY'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 5, 2021

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 90th birthday of my dear friend Margie Aileen Little Rigby.

Margie was born in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, and moved to Richmond, Virginia, when she was seven years old. After high school, Margie attended Trinity College in Clearwater, FL where she met her adoring husband, John William Rigby. Margie and John married and moved to Smiths Station, Alabama, where Margie still lives, surrounded by the joys of her life—her two kids, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Margie and John married in Richmond in 1952, where they began their 65 years of ministry, inspiring others and helping to spread God's word, and ended their illustrious journey in 2010 at Philadelphia Baptist Church in Smiths Station, Alabama. John was diagnosed with cancer a month later and battled the disease for seven years before being welcomed in God's arms in 2017.

Although Margie enjoyed being a schoolteacher, accountant and business owner, she felt most at home as a minister's wife. She taught children's church, new members, classes and Sunday school to so many people. Her spiritual gifts are teaching and writing, and she was a wonderful pastor's wife to many churches.

What stands out most to many who know Margie is her God-given ability to help many in the ministry who needed the assistance in navigating the challenges of being a pastor's wife. For many years, she taught others how to minister to those who have lost loved ones, who are going through tough times and how to grow in their faith. Margie overcame difficult times herself, raising her children for nine years as John traveled the nation preaching God's word. Her exceptional children and loving family are a testament to her goodness and resilience as a mother, and they would be the first to call her a Hero.

Madam Speaker, please join me, and so many adoring others, in celebrating Margie Aileen Little Rigby's 90th birthday.

RECOGNIZING THE LYNCHBURG AREA VETERANS COUNCIL

HON. BEN CLINE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 5, 2021

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the selfless efforts of the Lynchburg Area Veterans Council.

Come rain or shine, snow or sleet, nothing stands in the way of this group gathering at Monument Terrace in downtown Lynchburg every Friday to honor and support our troops.

This weekly gathering began nearly 20 years ago following the attacks on September 11th as American soldiers were heading into Afghanistan.

Since that time, the rallies have grown and those who drive by honk in support—which they say is the sound of freedom.